

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 20021 062133Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 ACDA-12 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

PRS-01 PM-05 /053 W

-----070991 070609Z /23R

R 061615Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9028
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 20021

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINS, IT, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET MESSAGE TO BERLINGUER ON N-BOMB ISSUE

REF: MOSCOW 17427

1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT HEARING THAT THE SOVIETS
EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE TO BERLINGUER, DURING HIS RECENT
VISIT TO MOSCOW, ABOUT THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY'S (PCI)
POSITION ON THE N-BOMB. THIS IS ONE FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE
ON WHICH THE PIC HAS ADOPTED A CLEAR POSITION.

2. THE PCI FIRST INDICATED ITS NEGATIVE POSITION ON THE
N-BOMB WHEN IT SEGND, TOGETHER WITH 27 OTHER COMMUNIST
PARTIES INCLUDING THE SOVIET, THE FRENCH, AND THE SPANISH
(BUT NOT THE YUGOSLAV AND THE ROMANIAN), A JOINT DECLARA-
TION STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOMB. THE
DECLARATION APPEARED IN THE PCI DAILY L'UNITA ON AUGUST 8.
THE PARTY'S STRONGEST UNILATERAL COMMENT ON THE
N-BOMB CAME IN A STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF IT
FOREIGN SECTION (RUBBI) DURING A DEBATE IN THE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE ITALIAN CHAMBER OF
DEPUTIES. COMMENTING ON A STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN WHICH IT WAS ANNOUNCED
THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET TAKEN A POSI-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 20021 062133Z

TION ON THE N-BOMB, RUBBI SAID: "AS FAR AS IT CONCERNSS
US (I.E., THE COMMUNISTS), WE ARE EXPRESSING OUR FIRM
AND CLEAR OPPOSITION TO THE PLANNING FOR, PRODUCTION
AND SUBSEQUENT DEPLOYMENT IN EUROPE OF THE N-BOMB. THE
ARGUMENT ACCORDING TO WHICH THIS WEAPON WOULD SERVE THE
INTERESTS OF THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE IS NOT ONLY NOT
ACCEPTABLE, BUT IT IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS." L'UNITA

ALSO PUBLISHED A SERIES OF COMMENTARIES ON THE N-BOMB,
ALL BUT ONE OF WHICH WERE NEGATIVE. THE SERIES SERVED
TO STIMULATE PUBLIC OPINION TO OPPOSE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOMB.

3. WE DO NOT DOUBT THAT BREZHNEV WOULD HAVE CHOSEN TO
RAISE WITH BERLINGUER SOVIET CONCERN OVER THE PCI'S
STATED POSITIONS ON NATO AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.
HOWEVER, GIVEN THE UNAMBIGUOUS STAND THAT THE PCI HAS
TAKEN ON THE N-BOMB, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS AN AREA
IN WHICH THE SOVIETS CAN COMPLAIN IN ANY MEASURE OVER
PCI BEHAVIOR. GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CHEMICAL WARFARE WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME20021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770453-0896
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771288/aaaacwoi.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f378a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 17427
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 343401
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MESSAGE TO BERLINGUER ON N-BOMB ISSUE
TAGS: PINS, IT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f378a70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009